

City ArtScene

Dedicated to the City of Fairfax Arts Activities

City Band Offers Exciting Winter-Spring Programs, Including Renowned Conductor

The City of Fairfax Band will round out its season of subscription concerts at Fairfax High School with three imaginative programs including some of the most memorable music written and arranged for symphonic band in this century.

Fantastic Journeys on February 27 includes music by Gustav Holst from *The Planets*, the music of John Williams as arranged by Donald Hunsberger in *A Star Wars Trilogy*, and Stephen Melillo's *A Walk Through Jurassic Park*.

On March 27, the Annual Young Artist Competition winner will be presented along with world-famous conductor, Frederick Fennell, founder of the Eastman Wind Ensemble and conductor of the Tokyo Kosei Wind Orchestra. Dr.

Fennell has chosen to conduct Grainger's *Lincolnshire Posy*, Persichetti's *Psalm for Band*, and *Armenian Dances* by Alfred Reed, each of these works among the most enduring in the band repertoire. This concert promises to be an historic event for the musicians, the young competition winner, and the audience. The band will



Conductor Frederick Fennell

City Band Archives

be conducted by a man who is justifiably labeled as "legendary" in the concert band and wind ensemble world!

James Christensen returns to conduct the annual Spotlight on the Arts concert April 24 at 8:00PM. Drawing upon his experience as composer and arranger

for Disney and Warner Brothers, Christensen will focus on music from Hollywood and the Oscar ceremony.

For ticket information, call 703/757-0220. Tickets are \$8 and \$5.

Inside:

Old Town Hall Performance Series
Virginia Opera Program
Pavilion Plans
Calling All Arts Volunteers
FHS Academy of Communications
1998/1999 Grants
Calendar

Useful Phone Numbers:

GMU Center for the Arts 993-8888
GMU Institute of the Arts 993-1120
GMU Music Department 993-1380
Spotlight on the Arts 352-ARTS
NVCC-Annandale 323-3000
City Band 757-0220
Commission on the Arts 385-7858

Commission Members:

Jeanne Agee, Chair
Kathryn Higgins
Thomas Hill
Daniel Jones
Cindy Schelhorn
Kirsten Schneider
Michael Shanta
Trish Shuman
Deb Smith
Jody Stein

Commission on the Arts meetings are held on the third Tuesday of each month at 7:30PM at the John C. Wood Center.

CityArtScene

is published twice a year by the City of Fairfax Commission on the Arts. Please direct comments and suggestions to:

City of Fairfax
Commission on the Arts
c/o Parks and Recreation
John C. Wood Community Center
3730 Old Lee Highway
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
385-7858

Kathryn Higgins Retires from Commission

After many years of service to the City of Fairfax as a member of the Commission on the Arts, Kathryn Higgins is not seeking reappointment.

Ms. Higgins served 12 years on the Commission on the Arts as well as five years on the Spotlight on the Arts Committee. She is an Artist/Art Consultant, serves as the Executive Director of the Fairfax Art League, and was a founding member of that group. In addition, she is a 12-year member of the Central Fairfax Chamber of Commerce.

Ms. Higgins, a multi-media artist, paints for the sheer joy of creating aesthetically beautiful glimpses of nature. She has traveled extensively throughout Europe and the Orient and lived in Europe for eight years. She has studied with teachers at the Corcoran as well as with outstanding local and nationally recognized teachers.

Painting has been one of Kathryn's lifelong interests and her love of the outdoors, as well as the influence of her travels, is reflected in her landscapes,

seascapes and city scenes. She is an avid golfer and includes golf scenes in her list of painting subjects. Additionally, she is a champion of all animals and has depicted a few of her furry or feathered friends in some of her paintings.

She is professionally associated with The Art League of Alexandria, The McLean Art Club, The Springfield Art Guild, the Vienna Society of Artists, The Fairfax Art League,

continued on page two

Old Town Hall Performance Series Features Outstanding Local Artists

Under the direction of Bonita Lestina, the popular Old Town Hall Performance Series presents some of our area's finest musical talent in free concerts on second and fourth Fridays at 8PM from October through April 9.

January: The January 8 performance will be given by the Washington Saxophone Quartet, one of the leading ensembles of its type in the country, playing music from their recent CD *To China and Bach*, plus a variety of other works.

Renaissance and Celtic music for lute Celtic harp and uilleann pipes will be presented by Linn Barnes and Allison Hampton on January 22.

February: On February 12, Quixotica will play romantic and imaginative music from the chamber repertoire for soprano, oboe, English horn, clarinet and piano.

The stellar Dave Anderson Jazz Trio will play contemporary and Latin-inspired jazz on February 26. Dave is a city resident who has established an enviable reputation as one of the area's finest jazz pianists.

March: Two more artists with roots in the immediate area will lend their talents to the series in March. String bass virtuoso Barbara Fitzgerald in a

program entitled *Bach to Bottesini* will perform on March 12.

Moonfire returns to the performance series playing Celtic music for dulcimer, fiddle, flute, guitar and keyboard on March 26.

April: Marimbist David Edgar Brown, a graduate of Fairfax High School, will close out the season on April 9 with *Marimba Voices of Yesterday and Today*, playing an instrument not often associated with a solo recital. Brown was a finalist in the National Symphony Young Artist competition.

A word of caution to OTHPS patrons—please plan to arrive sometime between 7:00 and 7:30PM, preferably closer to 7:15, in order to find seating. Audiences are growing each year and it is not unusual to find the hall filled much earlier than in previous years. Audiences must be held to the limit specified by the Fire Marshall. Handicapped patrons may enter by the Main Street entrance next to the Ratcliffe-Allison House to use the elevator.



Top: Quixotica will appear at OTH on February 12.
Below: The Washington Saxophone Quartet, appearing on January 8.

Photos courtesy of Bonita Lestina and The Washington Saxophone Quartet.

Kathryn Higgins

from page one

and The Arts Council of Fairfax County. She is an Associate Member of the American Watercolor Society and the Virginia Watercolor Society and a Charter Member of the National Museum of Women in the Arts.

The Commission on the Arts and the City of Fairfax owes Kathryn Higgins a deep debt of gratitude. Kathryn—our hats are off—we salute you and wish you all the best in your future endeavors.



Kathryn Higgins, shown here with one of her award winning paintings.

Photo courtesy of Kathryn Higgins

Virginia Opera Presents...

"New Adventures of Alice in Operaland"

The Commission on the Arts will sponsor a performance of *New Adventures of Alice in Operaland* presented by the Virginia Opera on March 14, at the Robert Russell Auditorium at Lanier Middle School. Performances will be given at 2:00PM and 3:30PM with an admission charge of \$3 for all ages. In this comic opera, Alice has grown into adolescence.

This production features music by Puccini, Mozart, Rossini, and other famous opera composers. Children in the audience will be called upon to assist in the production. Make plans now to attend this performance of the *New Adventures of Alice in Operaland* on March 14th.



CityArts events

Art Events Taking Place January 1999
through July 1999 in the City of Fairfax

COM	Commission on the Arts
FAL	Fairfax Art League
FHS	Fairfax High School
GMU	George Mason University
JCW	John C. Wood Complex
OTHP	Old Town Hall Performance Series
P&R	Parks & Recreation
PVI	Paul the Sixth HS
RAL	Russell Auditorium (Lanier)
NVCC	No. VA Community Coll.
VA	Veterans' Amphitheater

January

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|----|---|----|---|
| 2 | FAL Meeting/Demo
<i>JCW 1-4PM, Open</i> | 23 | Band Concert
<i>PVI, 8PM, Free</i> |
| 4 | FAL Reception
<i>OTH, 7-9PM, Open</i> | 26 | Moonfire, Celtic Music
<i>OTHP, 8PM, Free</i> |
| 4 | P&R Dance Classes Begin | 27 | Frederick Fennell and Competition
Winner with the City of Fairfax Band
<i>FHS, 8PM, \$8 and \$5</i> |
| 6 | P&R Water Color Class Begins | | |
| 4 | Lanier District Band Concert
<i>FHS 2PM</i> | | |
| 8 | Washington Saxophone Quartet
<i>OTHP, 8PM, Free</i> | | |
| 22 | Barnes and Hampton,
Renaissance and Celtic Music
<i>OTHP, 8PM, Free</i> | | |

February

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| 1 | FAL Reception
<i>OTH, 7-9PM, Open</i> | 16 | Spotlight Musicales and Reception
<i>OTH, 8PM, by Invitation</i> |
| 6 | FAL Meeting/Demo
<i>JCW, 1-4PM, Open</i> | 17 | Fairfax Choral Society
Children's Chorus – Spotlight
<i>RAL, 2:30PM</i> |
| 6 | All District Band
<i>FHS, 2PM, Free</i> | 17 | LaSalle Dance Orchestra – Spotlight
<i>OTH, 8PM, \$10 General Admission</i> |
| 12 | Quixotica
<i>OTHP, 8PM, Free</i> | 17 | FAL Spotlight Reception
<i>OTH, 1-4PM, Open</i> |
| 13 | All District Chorus
<i>FHS, 4PM, Free</i> | 18 | American Youth Philharmonic –
Spotlight
<i>OTH, 3PM, Tickets Needed</i> |
| 26 | Dave Anderson Jazz Trio
<i>OTHP, 8PM, Free</i> | 18 | Chapel Ringers – Spotlight
<i>FHS, 2PM, Free</i> |
| 27 | <i>Fantastic Journey</i>
City of Fairfax Band
<i>FHS, 8PM, \$8 and \$5</i> | 22 | GMU Chamber Orchestra – Spotlight
<i>OTH, 8PM, \$5 and \$3</i> |

March

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|----|---|----|---|
| 3 | Lanier Pre-Festival Band Concert
<i>RAL 7:30PM</i> | 24 | "And the Oscar Goes To..."
City of Fairfax Band
<i>FHS, 8PM, \$8 and \$5</i> |
| 6 | FAL Meeting/Demo
<i>JCW, 1-4PM, Open</i> | 25 | Musica Antiqua – Spotlight
<i>OTH, 7:30PM, Tickets Needed</i> |
| 8 | FAL Reception
<i>OTH, 7-9PM, Open</i> | 25 | Spotlight in the Park
<i>Van Dyck Park, 12-5PM</i> |
| 9 | Pre-Festival Concert
Fairfax and Lanier Orchestras
<i>FHS, 7:30PM, Free</i> | 30 | FHS Art Show Exhibit and
Reception and Awards
<i>JCW Gallery, 2:30-4PM, Reception</i>
<i>JCW Gallery, 10-5PM, M-F, Exhibit thru 5/28</i> |
| 11 | Pre-Festival Band Concert
<i>St. Leo's, TBA, Free</i> | 30 | Bobby Orr, Piano – Spotlight
<i>OTH, 8PM, \$4 and \$3</i> |
| 12 | Barbara Fitzgerald, Bassist
<i>OTHP, 8PM, Free</i> | 30 | Spring Drama Production
<i>PVI (May 1, 7 and 8)</i> |
| 14 | <i>Alice in Operaland</i> – Virginia Opera
<i>RAL, 2PM and 3:30PM, \$3</i> | | |
| 15 | Spring Art Exhibit
<i>PVI Library, 8:30-4:30, thru 3/26</i> | | |
| 16 | Choral Concert
<i>PVI, 7:30PM, Free</i> | | |
| 18 | Pre-Festival Choral Concert
<i>FHS Choral Room-K5, 7:30PM, Free</i> | | |

May

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| 1 | FAL Meeting/Demo
<i>JCW, 1-4PM, Open</i> |
| 2 | GMU Opera Scenes – Spotlight
<i>OTH, 2PM, \$5 and \$3</i> |
| 5-9 | FHS Drama Production, Tom Jones
<i>FHS, 7:30PM, (2PM Mat. on 5/8 & 9) \$6</i> |

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| 17 | Lanier Chorus Concert
<i>RAL, 7:30PM</i> |
| 20 | St. Leo's Band Concert
<i>St. Leo's School, 7:30PM, Free</i> |
| 21 | <i>City Lights</i> , Good Vibration Dancers
<i>NVCC Ernst Center, 8PM, Free</i> |
| 22 | FHS Choral Concert
<i>FHS, 7:30PM, Free</i> |
| 26 | FHS and Lanier Orchestras Concert
<i>RAL, 7:30PM, Free</i> |
| 27 | Pops Concert – Band and Chorus
<i>PVI, 7:30PM, Free</i> |

June

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| 1 | Fairfax High Choral Concert
<i>FHS, 7:30PM, Free</i> |
| 2 | Lanier Orchestra Spring Concert
<i>RAL, 7:30PM</i> |
| 4 | Mason District Park Concert
City of Fairfax Band
<i>Mason District Park, 7:30PM</i> |
| 4 | FHS Symphonic and Concert Band II
<i>FHS, 7:30PM, Free</i> |
| 5 | FAL Meeting/Demo
<i>JCW, 1-4PM, Open</i> |
| 5 | Jazz Cabaret– FHS and Lanier Jazz
Bands with Professional Jazz Guests
<i>FHS Cafeteria, 7PM, \$3</i> |
| 10 | Opening Summer Concert
City of Fairfax Band
<i>VA, 8PM, Free</i> |
| 17 | City Band Ensemble
<i>VA, 8PM, Free</i> |
| 24 | City Band Ensemble
<i>VA, 8PM, Free</i> |
| 26 | Lanier Band Spring Concert
<i>RAL, 7:30PM</i> |

July

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| 3 | Independence Day Parade
and Fireworks Concert
City of Fairfax Band
<i>FHS, 7PM, Free</i> |
| 8 | City Band Ensemble
<i>VA, 8PM, Free</i> |
| 15 | Annual Children's Concert
City of Fairfax Band
<i>VA, 8PM, Free</i> |
| 22 | City Band Ensemble
<i>VA, 8PM, Free</i> |
| 29 | City of Fairfax Band
<i>VA, 8PM, Free</i> |
| 30 | City of Fairfax Band
<i>Bethany Beach, DE, 7:30PM</i> |
| 31 | City of Fairfax Band
<i>Rehoboth Beach, DE, 8PM</i> |

NVCC Assists in Pavilion Planning Process

Assisting the Commission on the Arts with planning the proposed pavilion is the Northern Virginia Community College Alexandria/Architecture Program and the American Institute of Architecture Student NVCC, AL Chapter and Professor Harvey Liebman. On November 19, representatives of the group met with the architecture and technical design committee of the Commission. The group presented preliminary sketches and ideas for the proposed structure.

A vital element in the preliminary stage of the pavilion's planning is the launching of a feasibility study to examine environmental concerns arising from the location (parking and traffic on Old Lee Highway) and sound emanating from the pavilion. Funding for the study

will be requested from the City Council.

Interested citizens are urged to visit the proposed site which is directly behind the level field at the rear of the Parks and Recreation building at the John C. Wood Complex on Old Lee Highway, bordered by a grove of trees next to the Layton Hall Apartments and a path leading from University Drive. Volunteers are needed to work on the three pavilion committees: Community Advocacy, Fundraising and Architectural and Technical Design.

To receive pavilion updates in the "ArtsNewsFlash" call 385-7858 and leave your name and address. To arrange for pavilion committee members to speak to your civic association or other community group, or to volunteer to work on one of the committees, please call 385-7858.

Academy of Communications Arts—Up and Running

The much anticipated Academy for Communication Arts at Fairfax High School, one of two schools devoted to communications and fine and performing arts in the Fairfax County school system, is in its inaugural year, offering classes in Dance, Master Classes in Music and Arts, Computer Graphics, and Portfolio Preparation. Designed to supplement existing courses, additional classes unique to communications and arts will be added in the future, as announced in the latest *City of Fairfax Schools Bulletin*.

Eleventh and 12-grade students who

have a particular interest in the arts are taking courses every day in two shifts. Three shifts will be offered in coming years when more than 300 students will become involved.

The Academy is receiving supplementary financial support from Spotlight on the Arts, Inc., for making possible receptions and awards for outstanding high school visual artist and photographers in the spring during the Spotlight festival when the Annual FHS Arts Show is presented at the John C. Wood Complex, Us Too Gallery, and the One-Person Art Show at the high school.

Calling All Arts Volunteers!

If you are a City resident and have a strong interest in the arts in general or one art form in particular, the Commission on the Arts needs your assistance. You don't have to be an arts "practitioner" but you should be willing to devote some time each month to advancing the arts in the City of Fairfax. As mentioned in this issue of *CityScene*, there are several vacancies on the Commission. "The arts" include not only performing art, but also creative writing, including poetry, and visual arts. All art forms should have advocates on the Commission to fully represent the interests of City residents.

If you have a compelling interest in the arts, have good computer skills and ready access to a computer, the Commission is looking for a volunteer administrative assistant to help lighten the load borne by the Commission chair and Commission members. Being able to help for just a few hours each week can help to significantly advance the cause. For more information, contact any Commission member (see page one) or call 385-7858.



Commission Announces 1998-1999 Grants

The principal function of the Commission on the Arts is to award grants to city schools, community arts organizations and individuals who need assistance to further their arts activities. Grants given by the Commission this year are listed below.

City Schools:

Greenacres	The Georgia Sea Island Singers
Jermantown	<i>Poetry in Motion</i>
Layton Hall	<i>Jack Tales Theater</i> (coordinating all city elementary schools)
Layton Hall	<i>Spy</i> Assembly and writing workshop
Westmore	<i>Travel the World with Rhythm and Brass</i>
Fairfax High	<i>Matrix Magazine</i>

City of Fairfax Band: Support for Holiday Concert

Fairfax Art League: Lighting for Old Town Hall Gallery

Fairfax Art League: Artist Education Program

Fairfax Choral Society: Support for *Love Notes* concert

Good Vibration Dancers: *City Lights* production

Northern Virginia Youth Symphony Association: Support for Spotlight on the Arts Music and Art Concert

A special-project grant was also awarded to Historic Fairfax City, Inc. for an Old Town Hall musical performance during Heritage Week in May 1999.